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Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2008-2009*

Part II
Political affairs

Section 6
Peaceful uses of outer space

(Programme 5 of the biennial programme plan and priorities for the period 2008-2009)**

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* A summary of the approved programme budget will subsequently be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-second Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/62/6/Add.1).

** *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 6* (A/61/6/Rev.1).

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Overview

6.1 The overall purpose of the programme is the promotion of international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries. The programme evolved as a result of the recognition, by the General Assembly in its resolution 1348 (XIII), of the importance of using outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes and of the need to promote international cooperation in the conduct of space activities. The legislative authority and direction of the programme is drawn from relevant Assembly resolutions and the decisions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which was established in 1959 by Assembly resolution 1472 (XIV), its Legal Subcommittee and its Scientific and Technical Subcommittee and their subsidiary bodies. Recommendations of particular relevance for the work to be undertaken under this programme are contained in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development", adopted by the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) and endorsed by the Assembly in its resolution 54/68.

6.2 By its resolution 59/2, the General Assembly reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III and endorsed the Committee's Plan of Action, contained in the Committee's related report (A/59/174). The report also considered the achievements of the Committee and its Subcommittees following the introduction of their revised agenda structures in 2000 and paved the way for further strengthening their role in promoting the peaceful uses of outer space. The Plan of Action constitutes a long-term strategy for enhancing mechanisms at the national, regional and global levels for developing and strengthening the use of space science and technology and their applications to support overarching global agendas for sustainable development; developing coordinated, global space capabilities; supporting specific agendas to meet human development needs at the global level; and supporting overarching capacity development. In implementing that strategy, the Committee will provide a bridge between users and potential providers of space-based development and services by identifying the needs of Member States and coordinating international cooperation to facilitate access to the scientific and technical systems that might meet them. To maximize the effectiveness of its resources, the Committee adopted a flexible and unique mechanism that takes advantage of partnerships established between its secretariat, Member States, intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III.

6.3 The programme will strengthen the international legal regime governing outer space, resulting in improved conditions for expanding international cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space. The implementation of the programme will also strengthen efforts at the national, regional and global levels, including among entities of the United Nations system and international space-related entities, to maximize the benefits of the use of space science and technology and their applications.

6.4 The expected accomplishments and indicators of achievement for the Office for Outer Space Affairs in the biennium 2008-2009 are set out in detail, together with the required resources, under the programme of work.

6.5 The issue of publications as a part of the programme of work has been reviewed. It is anticipated that recurrent and non-recurrent publications will be issued as shown in table 6.1 and as described below under outputs.

Table 6.1 Summary of publications

Publications	*2004-2005 actual*	*2006-2007 estimate*	*2008-2009 estimate*
Recurrent	7	3	5
Non-recurrent	14	16	29
Total	**21**	**19**	**34**

6.6 The overall level of resources for the biennium 2008-2009 for this section amounts to $6,235,700 before recosting, reflecting an increase of $60,000 (1.0 per cent). The increase relates to the proposed establishment of one new post for a Programme Management Officer at the P-3 level in the Space Applications Section, and the amount is partially offset by decreases in non-post items, in particular under other staff costs, consultants and experts, travel of staff, contractual services and furniture and equipment.

6.7 During the biennium 2008-2009, the projected extrabudgetary resources, amounting to $681,000, will supplement resources from the regular budget to finance various activities, such as technical advisory services, training, workshops, seminars, field projects and publishing information on case studies and best practices in the use of space technology in various applications.

6.8 Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 58/269, resources identified for monitoring and evaluation for this section are estimated at $199,500.

Table 6.2 Resource requirements by component

(Thousands of United States dollars)

(1) *Regular budget*

Component	*2004-2005 expenditure*	*2006-2007 appropriation*	*Resource growth*		*Total before recosting*	*Recosting*	*2008-2009 estimate*
			Amount	*Percentage*			
Peaceful uses of outer space	5 769.1	6 175.7	60.0	1.0	6 235.7	345.5	6 581.2
Subtotal	**5 769.1**	**6 175.7**	**60.0**	**1.0**	**6 235.7**	**345.5**	**6 581.2**

(2) *Extrabudgetary*

	2004-2005 expenditure	*2006-2007 estimate*	*2008-2009 estimate*
Subtotal	**465.5**	**559.5**	**681.0**
Total (1) and (2)	**6 234.6**	**6 735.2**	**7 262.2**

Table 6.3 **Post requirements**

Category	Established regular budget posts		Temporary posts				Total	
			Regular budget		Extrabudgetary			
	2006-2007	2008-2009	2006-2007	2008-2009	2006-2007	2008-2009	2006-2007	2008-2009
Professional and above								
D-2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
D-1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
P-5	2	2	—	—	—	—	2	2
P-4/3	8	9	—	—	—	—	8	9
P-2/1	3	3	—	—	—	—	3	3
Subtotal	**15**	**16**	—	—	—	—	**15**	**16**
General Service								
Other level	5	5	—	—	—	—	5	5
Subtotal	**5**	**5**	—	—	—	—	**5**	**5**
Total	**20**	**21**	—	—	—	—	**20**	**21**

Programme of work

6.9 The programme of work has been formulated by drawing upon programme 5, Peaceful uses of outer space, of the biennial programme plan for the period 2008-2009.

Table 6.4 **Objectives for the biennium, expected accomplishments, indicators of achievement and performance measures**

Objective of the Organization: To increase international cooperation among Member States and international entities in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards achieving internationally agreed sustainable development goals.

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	Indicators of achievement
(a) Greater understanding, acceptance and implementation by the international community of the legal regime established by the United Nations to govern outer space activities	(a) (i) Increased number of States and intergovernmental organizations that have adhered to or declared their acceptance of the five United Nations treaties on outer space *Performance measures* 2004-2005: 334 States and intergovernmental organizations Estimate 2006-2007: 341 States and intergovernmental organizations Target 2008-2009: 343 States and intergovernmental organizations

(ii) Increased number of States and intergovernmental organizations that have taken action to promulgate or enact legislative instruments governing the conduct of space activities and/or any other actions to implement the five United Nations treaties governing outer space activities

Performance measures

2004-2005: 51 States and intergovernmental organizations

Estimate 2006-2007: 55 States and intergovernmental organizations

Target 2008-2009: 59 States and intergovernmental organizations

(b) Strengthened capacities of countries in using space science and technology and their applications in areas related, in particular, to sustainable development, and mechanisms to coordinate their space-related policy matters and space activities

(b) (i) Increased number of countries that have received assistance in using space science and technology and their applications to support national sustainable development programmes and activities

Performance measures

2004-2005: 32 countries

Estimate 2006-2007: 34 countries

Target 2008-2009: 36 countries

(ii) Increased number of countries that have established coordination mechanisms within their Governments for matters relating to space activities

Performance measures

2004-2005: 2 additional countries with coordination mechanisms

Estimate 2006-2007: 2 additional countries with coordination mechanisms

Target 2008-2009: 2 additional countries with coordination mechanisms

(c) Increased coherence and synergy in the space-related work of entities of the United Nation system and international space-related entities in using space science and technology and their applications as tools to advance human development and increase overall capacity development

(c) (i) Increased number of United Nations-system organizations and international space-related entities that have supported and co-sponsored the capacity-building activities of the Office for Outer Space Affairs

Performance measures

2004-2005: 7 United Nations-system organizations and international space-related entities

Estimate 2006-2007: 8 United Nations-system organizations and international space-related entities

Target 2008-2009: 9 United Nations-system organizations and international space-related entities

(ii) Increased number of partnerships with industry

Performance measures

2004-2005: 1 partnership

Estimate 2006-2007: 2 partnerships

Target 2008-2009: 3 partnerships

(iii) Increased number of joint technical workshops in collaboration with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the objectives, scope and general attributes of a potential technical safety standard for nuclear power sources in outer space

Performance measures

2004-2005: 0 joint technical workshops, co-organized with IAEA

Estimate 2006-2007: 1 joint technical workshop, co-organized with IAEA

Target 2008-2009: 2 joint technical workshops, co-organized with IAEA

	(iv) Increased number of agreements between the Office for Outer Space Affairs and regional centres for space science and technology education and their continuing education programmes
	Performance measures
	2004-2005: 0 agreements with the regional centres
	Estimate 2006-2007: 3 agreements with the regional centres
	Target 2008-2009: 4 agreements with the regional centres

External factors

6.10 The programme is expected to achieve its objectives and expected accomplishments on the assumption that:

(a) Member States are predisposed to ratify or accede to the United Nations treaties on outer space and are able to complete the necessary procedures during the biennium;

(b) Member States are able to complete actions to implement the treaties during the biennium;

(c) Space-related entities are able to find the necessary national and/or regional support and necessary human resources and funding for the provision of education opportunities in space law;

(d) Member States, in particular those with space capabilities, will continue to make major policy decisions and provide necessary resources to promote space science and technology and their applications;

(e) There will be steady growth of the space-related industry.

Outputs

6.11 During the biennium 2008-2009, the following outputs will be delivered:

(a) Servicing of intergovernmental and expert bodies:

(i) General Assembly (regular budget):

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: meetings of the Fourth Committee of the General Assembly on the agenda item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space" (6); provision of substantive secretariat services to the Working Group of the Whole on space-related agenda items of the Fourth Committee (6);

b. Parliamentary documentation: reports of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work at its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions (2);

(ii) Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary meetings of the Committee (30);

b. Parliamentary documentation: conference room papers (24); other documents prepared for scheduled meetings (4); reports of the Legal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work at its forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions (2); reports of the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space on the work at its forty-fifth and forty-sixth sessions (2); report by the new programme entitled United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (SPIDER) (2);

(iii) Scientific and Technical Subcommittee (regular budget):

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: organization of a space-industry symposium during the forty-fifth session of the Subcommittee (1); provision of assistance to the follow-up activities specific to the implementation of the recommendations of the action teams of UNISPACE III (3); provision of assistance to the chairs of the action teams established by the Committee to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III (3); provision of assistance to the International Astronautical Federation in the organization of a symposium on space applications during the forty-sixth session of the Subcommittee (1); provision of substantive secretariat services to the plenary and working groups of the Subcommittee (60);

b. Parliamentary documentation: conference room papers (30); final reports of the action teams established by the Committee to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III (3); other documents prepared for scheduled meetings (4); report of the United Nations Expert on Space Applications (2); reports containing contributions by Member States and international organizations for the consideration of agenda items of the Subcommittee, as requested by the Subcommittee (6); reports containing submissions by Member States and international organizations on their space-related activities (6); reports on the status or results of pilot projects as follow up to workshops and other activities organized under the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (2); reports of workshops, training courses, symposiums, conferences and seminars organized within the framework of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (20); technical reports relating to agenda items of the Subcommittee (4);

(iv) Legal Subcommittee (regular budget):

a. Substantive servicing of meetings: plenary and working groups of the Subcommittee (56);

b. Parliamentary documentation: conference room papers (20); legal studies relating to agenda items of the Subcommittee and/or containing results of research on national and international regulations affecting space-related activities (4); other documents prepared for scheduled meetings (4); report of workshops, training courses, symposiums, conferences and seminars organized on the legal aspects of space activities (2);

(v) Depository services (regular budget): dissemination of information furnished to Member States in accordance with the Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies, the Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space, and the Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space (2); maintenance of a public register and database of information furnished to Member States in the A/AC.105/INF and

ST/SG/SER.E series of documents in accordance with the United Nations Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space (40);

(b) Other substantive activities:

(i) Recurrent publications (regular budget): *Highlights in Space: Progress in Space Science, Technology and Applications, International Cooperation and Space Law* (2); update of *United Nations Treaties and Principles on Outer Space* (1); presentations, conclusions and recommendations of the Workshop on Space Law — Proceedings (2);

(ii) Non-recurrent publications (regular budget/extrabudgetary): *Report on World Space Week* (2); *Space Solutions for the World's Problems: How the United Nations family uses space technology for achieving development goals* (1); publications, displays and education materials for distribution at United Nations seminars, workshops and regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated to the United Nations (6); special publications, articles and reviews relating to United Nations space activities (6); publications by the SPIDER programme in hard copy and e-newsletters of outreach material for disaster management decision makers and practitioners (10); publications by the SPIDER programme in hard copy and CD-ROM of case studies and best practices in the use of space technology in disaster management for distribution to developing countries (2); publications by the SPIDER programme in hard copy and CD-ROM of training curriculums on the use of space technology in reducing and preventing flooding and wildfire disasters (2);

(iii) Exhibits, guided tours and lectures (regular budget/extrabudgetary): maintenance of the permanent exhibit on the benefits of space technology for improving life on Earth and for protecting the environment (4); presentations to Member States, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental entities on the work of the United Nations in outer space activities (10); short-term exhibits detailing Member States' national space activities, to be held at the Vienna International Centre during the sessions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and it Subcommittees (4);

(iv) Booklets, fact sheets, wall charts and information kits (regular budget/extrabudgetary): poster on World Space Week (2); updated booklet on the activities of the Programme on Space Applications (1); preparation of booklets on the SPIDER programme (4);

(v) Special events (regular budget/extrabudgetary): organization and coordination of special events to celebrate World Space Week (2); organization of an expert panel in the General Assembly on activities undertaken to implement the recommendations of UNISPACE III (2);

(vi) Technical materials for outside users (regular budget/extrabudgetary): improvement of the International Space Information Service, including the home page of the Office for Outer Space Affairs and databases on various subjects relating to space science and technology and space law, and dissemination of CD-ROMs with educational material on those subjects; maintenance of the website for the work of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities and inter-agency cooperation in space-related activities; maintenance of the website on the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III; maintenance of the website of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems; establishment and maintenance of web servers, database servers and applications servers comprising the "one stop" Web portal of the SPIDER programme; capacity to provide information 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by the SPIDER programme for specific information beyond what is available on the Web portal; and updating and increasing the number of sources of assistance in the use of

space technology to support disaster management for the use of Member States, United Nations offices and others through the reference service of the Office for Outer Space Affairs on scientific, technical, policy and legal issues relating to space activities;

(vii) Humanitarian missions (regular budget/extrabudgetary): a Cooperating Body with the International Charter on Space and Major Disasters to respond to requests by entities of the United Nations system to activate the Charter (20); contributions by the SPIDER programme, at the request of Member States, on updating disaster management policies of and planning by relevant national institutions with regard to the use of space-based technologies for disaster reduction (15);

(viii) Seminars for outside users (regular budget/extrabudgetary): participation in meetings of intergovernmental organizations addressing space-related issues (10); participation in international meetings of space-related non-governmental entities (10); participation in meetings of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations addressing disaster management-related issues (8);

(ix) Substantive servicing of inter-agency meetings (regular budget): substantive servicing of the annual Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (2); substantive servicing of an annual open forum for the exchange of information between members of the Committee and representatives of entities of the United Nations system (2);

(x) Documentation for inter-agency meetings (regular budget): annual report of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities (2); reports on the coordination of outer space activities within the United Nations system: programme of work for 2008, 2009 and future years (2);

(c) Technical cooperation (regular budget/extrabudgetary):

(i) Advisory services:

a. Provision of assistance, upon request, to Member States, in particular developing countries, in the development of national space legislation and policy as well as ratification of existing outer space treaties (4);

b. Provision of technical advisory services, upon request, to Member States to update or initiate disaster management policies and plans with regard to the use of space-based technologies for disaster reduction (6);

c. Provision of technical advisory services, upon request, to Member States as well as regional and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to support national and regional programmes and projects in various fields of space law and space science and technology and their applications (6);

d. Provision of technical assistance and nominal financial assistance to support the educational and training activities and the operation of the regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated to the United Nations (8); provision of technical assistance to selected participants, with emphasis on professional women, in the series of regional workshops on the use of space technology in programme priority thematic areas (9);

e. Provision of technical assistance to the Governing Board and Advisory Committee of the regional centres for space science and technology education affiliated to the United Nations (5);

(ii) Training courses, seminars and workshops:

a. Training courses for participants from developing countries, in particular professional women, on selected topics dealing with remote sensing, communications, satellite meteorology and space science (4);

b. Workshops and meetings of experts for decision makers and programme managers, in particular women, on the use of space science and technology and applications in support of various aspects of sustainable development (4);

c. Workshops and meetings of experts in various regions of the world for participants from developing countries on selected topics of space science and technology and their applications (10);

d. Regional workshops/meeting of experts in various regions of the world for disaster managers and experts on the use of space technology in disaster management to disseminate possibilities offered by the new SPIDER programme (4);

e. International meeting of experts, including representatives of the new SPIDER programme and other entities of the United Nations system, ongoing and planned international and regional initiatives, disaster managers and experts on the use of space technology in disaster management, to review activities in the field and to agree on future directions (2);

f. Workshops on legal aspects of space activities (2);

(iii) Fellowships and grants: administration of long-term international fellowships in the field of space science and technology offered by Member States and space-related intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations (14);

(iv) Field projects: implementation of demonstration projects in developing countries and provision of financial support to a limited number of selected projects originating from the workshops on the use of space technology in programme priority thematic areas to build capacity in the use of space technology for sustainable development (6); implementation of practical demonstration exercises to include the use of space applications within university curriculums in developing countries (2); implementation of demonstration projects on the use of space technology in disaster management in developing countries (4);

Table 6.5 Resource requirements: programme of work

	Resources (thousands of United States dollars)		*Posts*	
Category	*2006-2007*	*2008-2009 (before recosting)*	*2006-2007*	*2008-2009*
Regular budget				
Post	4 963.2	5 087.3	20	21
Non-post	1 212.5	1 148.4	—	—
Subtotal	**6 175.7**	**6 235.7**	**20**	**21**
Extrabudgetary	559.5	681.0	—	—
Total	**6 735.2**	**6 916.7**	**20**	**21**

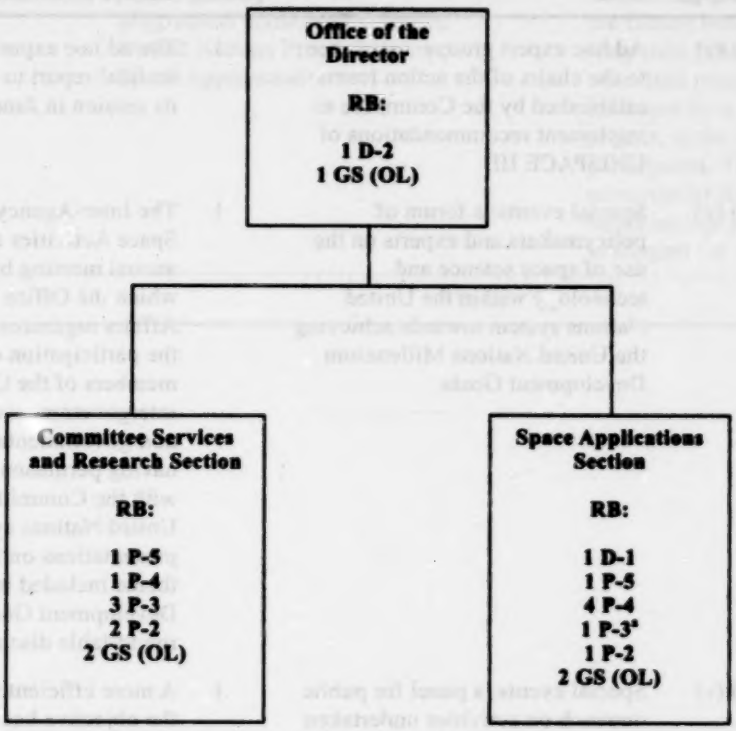
6.12 The amount of $6,235,700 will provide for the continuation of 20 established posts, the establishment of one post at the P-3 level and related non-post resources. The increase reflects additional resource requirements for the establishment of the new post for a Programme Management Officer to assist in preparing and producing outputs related to the use of space technology in disaster management and in coordinating the activities of the new programme with relevant activities of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications. This increase is partially offset by a decrease in requirements for non-post items under other staff costs, consultants and experts, contractual services (external printing), travel of staff, and furniture and equipment.

Table 6.6 **Summary of follow-up action taken to implement relevant recommendations of the oversight bodies**

Brief description of the recommendation	*Action taken to implement the recommendation*
Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/60/7, chap. II)	
The Advisory Committee recalls that in paragraph II.39 of its first report on the proposed programme budget for 2004-2005 (A/56/7), it recommended that the number, frequency, venues and duration of the meetings of intergovernmental and expert bodies, as well as committees and subcommittees, related to this programme be reviewed from time to time. The Committee was informed that the issue had been raised but that there had been no follow-up. The Committee recommends that this issue be pursued more actively with a view towards better rationalization of resources for this purpose (para. II.29).	The Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its two Subcommittees meet only once a year, invariably in Vienna. That venue results in lower costs to the United Nations because the Committee secretariat is located in Vienna. The issue of reducing the duration of the sessions of the intergovernmental bodies has been discussed several times by the Committee without reaching consensus and remains controversial. Any decision is to be taken by Member States.
The Advisory Committee notes that 19 publications are estimated for 2006-2007. The Committee recommends that a review be undertaken to determine whether the publication of the print version could in some cases be scaled back in favour of the electronic version. In addition, greater use should be made of in-house printing, given the existing capacity in Vienna (para. II.31).	The Office has included publications in CD-ROM version in its proposed publications plan, with a consequent reduced number of hard copies, resulting in a cost reduction.

Office for Outer Space Affairs

Organizational structure and post distribution for the biennium 2008-2009



Abbreviations: RB, regular budget; GS (OL), General Service (Other level).

[a] New post.

Annex

Outputs produced in 2006-2007 not to be carried out in the biennium 2008-2009

A/60/6, paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
6.15 (a) (v)	Ad hoc expert groups: assistance to the chairs of the action teams established by the Committee to implement recommendations of UNISPACE III	1	The ad hoc expert group presented its final report to the Committee at its session in June 2006.
6.15 (b) (v)	Special events: a forum of policymakers and experts on the use of space science and technology within the United Nations system towards achieving the United Nations Millennium Development Goals	1	The Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities agreed to reduce its annual meeting by half a day, during which the Office for Outer Space Affairs organizes an open forum with the participation of the States members of the Committee and of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations having permanent observer status with the Committee. Entities of the United Nations system make presentations on their activities on a theme included in the Millennium Development Goals followed by a round-table discussion.
6.15 (b) (v)	Special events: a panel for public outreach on activities undertaken to implement the plan of action of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space	1	A more efficient way of achieving the objective has been substituted for this recurrent output. For 2006-2007, the Office has been cooperating with the Conference of Non-governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CONGO) in the organization of public outreach seminars and panels. While the Office contributes to the development of the programmes of these activities and provides speakers for them, CONGO carries out the bulk of the work. Being an association of NGOs, CONGO can reach a more diverse cross-section of the public.

A/60/6, paragraph	*Output*	*Quantity*	*Reason for discontinuation*
6.15 (c) (1) c	Provision of technical and financial assistance to a limited number of selected participants in the long-term fellowship programme administered by the United Nations Programme on Space Applications	1	The Office provides technical and financial assistance to the Regional Centres for Space Science and Technology Education, affiliated to the United Nations. The centres offer long-term fellowships (9-month education programme) which are enhanced by a 1-year follow-up project, in the home country of participants. The staff and financial resources of the Office would have a larger multiplying impact if utilized to support the centres.
	Total	**4**	